

King County FISH Program

FORENSIC INTENSIVE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Services Provided by:
Sound Mental Health (SMH)
1600 E Olive St.
Seattle WA. 98122
Phone: (206) 302-2200

The Forensic Intensive Supportive Housing (FISH) Project will provide supportive housing, using a **housing first approach**, and provide capacity to serve up to 60 homeless veterans and non-veterans diagnosed with mental illness.

Program Description

The FISH program is an intensive, supportive housing first project that is tailored to provide effective prevention and intervention strategies for those most at-risk and most in need to reduce or prevent more acute illness, high-risk behaviors, incarceration and other emergency medical or crisis responses. The Housing First approach consists of providing housing to participants without requiring participation in mental health and substance use disorder treatment, however, treatment is continually offered and provided when participants consent.

Services include:

- Time-unlimited services provided from a recovery and resiliency perspective
- Provide vocational training and help participants find and keep jobs
- Housing support and stability services
- Medication management
- Benefits assistance
- Intensive Case Management/Assertive Engagement
- Integrated mental health and substance abuse treatment
- 24-hour crisis services

Target Population

The Program will serve 60 homeless veterans and non-veterans diagnosed with mental illness over a three year period.

Eligibility

1. Homeless adults who have been seen by the **King County District Court Mental Health Court (MHC), the City of Seattle Municipal MHC or the City of Auburn MHC** who are unable to participate in a MHC because they have been found to be not legally competent and a dismiss and detain order has been entered by the court.
2. **Homeless adult U.S. military veterans** with any Axis 1 mental health disorder or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders in a King County jail or municipal jail within King County identified by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) to qualify for services under the eligibility criteria set forth by the King County Veterans Levy Program.

King County FISH Program

FORENSIC INTENSIVE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

FISH Program Team Design

The FISH team model incorporates a transdisciplinary team of professionals who work to provide the majority of treatment, rehabilitation, and support services clients need to achieve their goals. The FISH team is mobile and delivers services in community locations rather than expecting the client to come to the program.

The FISH team consists of:

- Forensic Boundary Spanner who will serve as the liaison with the criminal justice system
- Mental Health Professionals
- Case Managers with Mental Health and Chemical Dependency training
- Vocational Specialist
- Forensic Peer Specialist
- Psychiatric Prescriber

Housing with the FISH program

A range of housing models and options will be used to accommodate and support individual stabilization and recovery. 24-hour housing assistance will be provided.

FISH Program Sound Mental Health Contact Information:

Rebecca Sartwell, MH, MHP

FISH Program Coordinator

206.331-0438

rebeccasa@smh.org

FISH is part of the King County Mental Health Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services, Criminal Justice Initiatives.

Contact: Jessie Benet, (206) 263-8956, Jessie.benet@kingcounty.gov

(The FISH program is funded through the King County Veterans and Humans Services Levy.)